PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Docket No: Q74947

Yasuhide ODASHIMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/550,270 Group Art Unit: 1742

Confirmation No.: 3137 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: July 6, 2006

For: HORIZONTALLY CONTINUOUSLY CAST ROD OF ALUMINUM ALLOY AND

METHOD AND EQUIPMENT FOR PRODUCING THE ROD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of Communications from a foreign patent office in counterpart applications citing such documents (Office Action issued June 30, 2008 in Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-019979 and an Office Action issued June 30, 2008 in Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-103945), together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communications indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: Applicant is submitting English-language abstracts for JP 01-092039, JP 04-190947, JP 58-221611, JP 62-286623, JP 01-147039 and JP 58-100016, which constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of these documents.

Applicant is submitting English-language abstracts and machine translations for JP 2003-027171, JP 07-311179, JP 2003-019533, JP 02-192860, JP 07-040017 and JP 11-254093, which constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of these documents.

In addition, JP 58-221611 corresponds to U.S. 4,545,227, and JP 2003-027171 corresponds to U.S. 2003/0026726.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 U.S. Appln. No.: 10/550,270

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE 23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 23, 2009

Sheldon Il. Landsman

Attorney Docket No.: Q74947

Sheldon I. Landsman Registration No. 25,430